

## CLASSIFICATION OFFICE DECISION

**Title of publication:** 02 (7)-001

**Other known title(s):** Not stated

**OFLC ref:** 1700387.009

**Medium:** Computer Image File

**Publisher:** Not stated

**Country of origin:** Not stated

**Language:** Not applicable

**Applicant:** Commissioner of Police

<b>Classification:</b>	Objectionable except if the availability of the publication is restricted to persons who have attained the age of 18 years.
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**Descriptive note:** None

**Display conditions:** None

**Date of entry in Register:** 07 August 2017

**Date of direction to issue a label:** No direction to issue a label has been issued

**Date of notice of decision:** 04 August 2017

### Summary of reasons for decision:

The cartoon image depicts characters from 'The Simpsons' and shows a man committing an act of violence on a woman with sexually violent overtones. This depiction is not sexually explicit and therefore is unlikely to be used for the purpose of sexual arousal. It is most likely to be read by adults as a transgressive and boundary-pushing work of satire. Children and teenagers are unlikely to interpret the image in this way, which may have an inuring effect on their attitudes toward violence against women. Younger viewers are also likely to be strongly shocked and disturbed by seeing familiar cartoon characters depicted in this manner and this is likely to have a negative impact on their understanding of sexual consent. The presence of a clear, high-quality watermark directing the viewer to a pornographic website indicates that the image is intended for adults. This decision interferes with the right to freedom of expression affirmed by the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990, but is a reasonable limitation to that right in order to prevent injury to the public good.